

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SYDNEY 00898 060219Z

63

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01

CU-04 FEA-02 INT-08 CIEP-02 USPS-02 OC-06 CCO-00

DRC-01 /133 W

----- 043205

R 060110Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL SYDNEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5382

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, AS

SUBJ: INDUSTRIAL DISTURBANCES AND AUSTRALIAN ELECTION

REF: SYDNEY 843

1. NOT SURPRISINGLY, THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE ALP, FACING A GENERAL ELECTION ON MAY 18, IS USING ITS INFLUENCE QUIETLY TO TAMP DOWN INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES WHICH MIGHT ERUPT INTO POLITICALLY DISADVANTAGEOUS WORK STOPPAGES BEFORE THE ELECTION.

2. THE POWER PLANT WORKERS (PARA A REFTTEL) ACCEPTED A COMPROMISE WAGE INCREASE WITHOUT GAINING THEIR DEMANDS FOR A SHORTER WORK WEEK. UNLESS SOME NEW EVENT INTERVENES, THIS KEY POLITICALLY SENSITIVE AREA IS LIKELY TO BE QUIET THROUGH THE ELECTION.

3. WATERSIDE WORKERS DISPUTE (PARA B REFTTEL), HOWEVER, IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STILL ACTIVE AND COULD ERUPT SERIOUSLY BEFORE MAY 18. ARBITRATION

COMMISSION AWARD OF DOLS15.00 WEEKLY INCREASE TO BUILDERS IN
OTHER STATES HAS CREATED DEMAND FOR "FLOW ON" BENEFITS TO
BUILDERS LABORERS IN NEW SOUTH WALES. FAILING THIS, UNION
THREATENS A NATIONAL STRIKE DURING THE WEEK OF MAY 13.
HOWEVER, DISPUTE GOES TO STATE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION ON
MAY 10 AND MAY BE RESOLVED AT THAT TIME.
HANNAH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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